(c) The amount utilised in 1998-99 was Rs. 107.76 crore.

(d) There is no action plan drawn up for any other river.

"Pending Proposals of Roads in Garhwal and Kumaon"

†1009. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 187, given in the Rajya Sabha on 11th December, 1998 and state:

(a) the number and details of proposals pending for clearance with the Central Government with regard to roads of 12 districts of Garhwal and Kumaon division,, the hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) by when these are likely to be cleared by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE I MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI):

(a) and (b) The present status of 115 proposals of roads as mentioned in the part (c)I reply of Starred Question 187 in Rajya Sabha on 11.12.1998; is given below:

(i) 9 proposals have been approved.

(ii) 12 proposals have been approved in-principle.

(iii) 4 proposals withdrawn/returned to State Government.

(iv) 11 proposals rejected.

(v) 76 proposals have been rejected for want of information from the State Government within stipulated time period. However, these proposals can be reopened subject to the State Government furnishing complete information alongwith satisfactory reasons for delay in submission of information.

(vi) 1 proposal is pending with State for supply of additional information.

(vii) 2 proposals namely-Queja Kandara motor road in district Chamoli and Kotbangar Badhani Tai motor road in district Tehri are under consideration of the Ministry.

"Ban on picking sandstones in Rivers"

†1010. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a ban has been imposed on the picking of

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.